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PATENT APPLICATION
DOCKET NO. 3342

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S): George M. Gordon, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/634,599 GROUP ART UNIT: 3673

FILED: August 5, 2003 EXAMINER: Conley,
Fredrick C

SUBJECT: Day Care Sleeper

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S ACTION MAILED FEBRUARY 9, 2004

In response to the Examiner's Action mailed February 9, 2004, please enter the following amendments and remarks of record.

AMENDMENTS

In the Drawings:

Please amend Figures 2 - 4, as shown in the attached sheets.

In the Description:

Please amend selected paragraphs of the Description as shown below:

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 29 of page 4 and continuing to line 13 of page 5, as follows:

As illustrated in Fig. 6, when not in use, the entire sleeping pad 10 and blanket 30 may be rolled, folded, or stuffed into a compact shape for storage. Preferably, there is a storage pouch 20 on bottom (foot) end 116 at or near the bottom edge 16 of the sleeping pad 10, on the upper surface 111 of the mat, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The preferred storage pouch 20 is a pocket equal in width to the mat 11 and enclosing a portion of the top upper surface 111 of the mat 10. Due to the pouch's preferred rectangular shape, the pillow's preferred rectangular shape and the thickness relative to the rest of the mat and the firmness of the pillow relative to the rest of the mat due to the thickness of the mat, and the placement of the hook-and-loop fasteners, the sleeping pad is easy for a child to roll or stuff by himself. As it is "rolled up", the pad 10 tends to flip/fold over in incremental rectangular amounts generally equal to the size of the pillow. This is because of the relative firmness of the pillow and its tendency to fold at the boundary with the mat rather than rolling-up cylindrically. This tends to make it easy and neat for children to roll/fold the pad into the pouch. Also, the sleeping pad, after being rolled/folded or stuffed and secured, is a rectangular sofa-pillow shape—about 2.5 feet by 1 foot by 8 inches—rather than a cylinder or a tube. The flatter sofa-pillow shape stacks and stores easily, as it won't readily roll. Also, a child can use it around the daycare for "circle time," or other lounging or reading time.

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 14 on page 5 and continuing through line 23, as follows:

The storage pouch 20 is preferably formed on or attached to the mat both during use of the mat as a sleeping pad and also during storage. Thus, there is typically no reason to detach the storage pouch from the mat and no reason to make the storage pouch a separate bag or container. The preferred storage pouch, therefore, is integral with the mat and is not detachable. The preferred storage pouch comprises an underside or lower half 120 which is the bottom end of the mat, and an upper half 220, which is a flap of soft or cushioning material extending forward over the mat, and being secured at its side edges to the edges of the mat. With the bottom (rear) edge of the pouch upper half being attached to or integral with the mat, the side edges of the upper half being attached to or integral with the mat, and the ~~front top~~ edge 24 being unattached to the mat and forming the extremity of the pouch nearest the top (head) end 115 of the mat. Therefore, the upper half forms a pouch with the mat by surrounding and defining interior space 25.

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 24 on page 5 and continuing through line 8 of page 6, as follows:

In the preferred storage pouch 20, there is a strip of hook-and-loop fastener (hereinafter “pouch closure strip 21”) just inside the top edge 24. A cooperating strip of hook-and-loop fastener (hereinafter “back closure strip 22”) is located on the back surface 211 of the mat 11, preferably at about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way from the top end toward the bottom end of the mat. The preferred back closure strip 22 has “loops” so that it will not catch on carpet fibers when the sleeping pad 10 is unrolled. Thus, the preferred pouch closure strip 22 has “hooks.” The sleeping pad 10 and blanket 30 roll up from the top edge toward the bottom edge and are stuffed into the interior 25 of the storage pouch 20. This brings the back closure strip 22 into position to cooperate with and attach to the pouch closure strip 21, shutting the sleeping pad 10 and blanket 30 inside the storage pouch. During this procedure, the hook and loop fastener 32 on the blanket 30 will be removed from the strip 21 so that the back closure strip 22 may take its place. With the preferred loop fastener for securing the back of the mat to the upper half 220 of the pouch being located nearer the bottom end of the mat than the top end, and with the mat being rollable into the pouch, the pouch may close around substantially all of the mat, that is, with all of the mat enclosed inside the pouch except the bottom portion of the mat which forms the lower half 120 of the pouch.